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BAPTIST INFORMER

Volume 133, No. 1 | Publication of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., Inc. | January 2010

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST SEMINARY 20

GBSC THEME

"To Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced...through Education, Missions and Fellowship,"

Matthew 28:19-20

Medical Missions at Lott Carey School

By Rev. David Emmanuel Goatley, Ph.D.

A mission team of 21 people from Effort Baptist Church, Palmyra, Virginia, headed by the Rev. June Clifford, comprising of medical doctors, a pharmacist, pharmacy technician, nurse practitioner, physical therapist, youth and children workers, eye specialist, and prayer warriors recently spent five weeks in Liberia. This dedicated team conducted medical missions, evangelism, youth and children's camps, and ministered to children in orphanages. This is Effort, Palmyra's seventh mission trip to Liberia. Effort Baptist churches in Virginia and Paynesville, Liberia have a sister-church relationship.

The mission team spent three days at the Lott Carey Mission School doing clinics for students and staff on the first day and a community clinic the last two days. During these three days, they offered medical services in the following areas: abdominal pains, reproductive health care, ear, nose and throat infections, eye clinic (gave free screening and reading glasses), respiratory infections, urinary tract/sexually transmitted infections, cough/cold infections, worm treatment, and others. While at Lott Carey, the team also screened and treated more than 550 children and more than 600 adults, with 1,500 prescriptions filled. These clinics were held free of charge. All of the medications dispensed at these clinics were brought in by the mission team.

The team traveled to Foya, Lofa County and held clinics there for four days, treating more than 620 adults and more than 650 children, dispensing an average of 1,090 prescriptions a day.

While at Lott Carey the mission team

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Shaw Grad Crowned Miss Black New Jersey

From Press Reports

Lori Bryant was crowned Miss Black New Jersey 2010 USA on December 19 during the competition in Montclair, New Jersey.

Bryant, 22, is from Trenton, New Jersey, and last month she graduated with a degree in political science from Shaw University. She's a trained classical dancer and has studied ballet, jazz, tap, modern, hip hop, and African dance. Bryant says she would like to attend law school in the fall, where she plans to study both intellectual property and entertainment law.

She was a member of the President's List (all A's) and Dean's List (all A's and B's) throughout her collegiate career at Shaw. She intends to start her own online book club in the near future that will cater to issues that directly impact African-American women. She aspires to continue giving back to the community by teaching free dance lessons to inner city youth, encouraging young people to vote, and stay active in politics as well as being an advocate for breast cancer awareness.

Along with the crown and title, Bryant wins $2,500, a chance to participate in Nole Marin's Model Boot Camp, and an all-expenses-paid trip to the national pageant, where she will have a chance to win $20,000.

For more details on the pageant and Bryant's bio, visit www.missblacknewjersey.org.

Rev. Barber Delivers Powerful Acceptance Speech for Humanitarian Award

From Staff Reports

Rev. Dr. William J. **Barber II**

During the 2009 Lamplighter Awards held last month at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts in Raleigh, the Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, Pastor of Greenleaf Christian Church, President of the North Carolina NAACP, and national NAACP board member, was the recipient of the John Hope Franklin Humanitarian Award. He was chosen out of more than 300 nominated people for his service and commitment to the fight for civil and human rights.

In receiving the award, Dr. Barber made the following remarks:

" 'We' is the most important word in the justice vocabulary. The issue is not what we can't do, but what we can do when we stand together, pray together, and fight for right together. I am humbled and honored by this award and give honor to God. I receive it on behalf of the NAACP and all of its members in our 100 years of existence and encourage all of you to join because if it had not been for the work it has done, we would not be here tonight. I receive it on behalf of all of our coalition partners in the fight for justice and equality. I receive it on behalf of those who have died, who sacrificed in the cause of justice. I receive it in the remembrance of John Hope Franklin, who taught us where we came from so that we might know where we were going. I receive it thanking my family and church family and other colleagues in the ministry

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P2 PBS Explores African-American Contributions

P3 Big Brother, Big Sisters and African-American Fraternities Develop Plan

P5 [illegible] Organizations Celebrate MLK Holiday

P8 [illegible]

Shaw Music Instructor's Song Chosen for Special Olympics

From Press Reports

A song co-written by Dave Wulfeck, a music instructor at Shaw University, has been chosen as the title track to the CD for the 2010 USA Special Olympics National Games. Titled "Everybody Wins," it's described as a song of hope.

Wulfeck, who lives in Reidsville and has been writing songs for more than a decade, sings the vocals on the song, which he co-wrote with friend Dee Meese. Wulfeck is a lifelong musician—he plays second trombone in the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra, is a member of the Carolina Brass, and an adjunct faculty member in the music department at Shaw University.

Sarah Leeth, vice president of marketing and public relations for the 2010 games, said the Nebraska chapter of the Nashville Songwriters Association International brought the song to the attention of Special Olympics officials. She said it was particularly moving that the song featured the Special Olympics oath: "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." She said the Special Olympics is also hoping to use the song in an upcoming public service announcement.

Wulfeck and Meese will perform the song at the national games.

The 2010 USA Special Olympics National Games will be played in Nebraska July 18-23. For more details and to hear a sample of "Everybody Wins," visit www.2010specialolympics.org.

Medical Missions: Continued from Page 1

also had an appreciation party for the teachers—each teacher receiving a gift package, cake, and punch. Stationary and school supplies, bubbles, balloons, sporting supplies and equipment were also donated to the school.

We are indeed grateful to the Effort Mission team for their love, commitment to Liberia, generosity of spirit, selflessness, and for their support in many ways. We pray that the good Lord will continue to bless and continue to use them and that they will encourage and inspire others.

Rev. Barber Delivers: Continued from Page 1

who give their support. And finally, I receive it recognizing that there is still much work to be done as long as 880,000 African Americans have died over the last ten years because of the lack of health insurance and 52 percent of the more than 47 million without health insurance are minorities, as long as schools are re-segregated and our children are in schools that under-educate them, as long as black men are the most incarcerated and wrongly convicted, there is work to be done and we must stand together, fight together, speak up together, until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream! Knowing that if we stand for right, God is able to see us through."

Glorify God Through Support of State Missions

By Rev. Dr. Nilous M. Avery, II, D. Min.
First Vice-President GBSC

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Galatians 1:3-5, NIV).

Dr. Nilous **Avery, II**

The New Year provides opportunities for new commitments, new goals, new objectives, new lessons, new experiences, new challenges, and new victories. The Christian community must be equipped and empowered to embrace our opportunities, confront the challenges, overcome the obstacles, cultivate our gifts, learn from the lessons, and celebrate our victories with renewed energy, enthusiasm, excitement, and enlightenment.

The Christian life involves a vertical line from the believer to God, and a horizontal line from the believer to others. The writer in 2 Corinthians 9:8 puts it this way: "God can bless you with everything you need, and you will always have more than enough to do all kinds of good things for others" (CEV). Consequently, prophetic ministry must match our proclaimed mission. Our congregational in-reach and community outreach must always lead to a god-honoring up-reach that glorifies God and edifies others. Our claim of inner grace must be interlocked with our outward show of goodness toward others.

Beloved, let us faithfully pledge to fulfill our spiritual and financial support to the General Baptist State Convention objectives. Our time, talents, treasures, and prayers are needed, encouraged, welcomed, and appreciated. The convention and the local ministries we serve are gifts from God that He has entrusted to us as faithful stewards. I can think of no better way to glorify God and edify others in 2010 than through generous and cheerful contributions to State Missions.

The harvest is ripe for a prophetic ministry that preaches good news, and proclaims freedom, restoration, release, and the year of the Lord's favor (from Isaiah 61:1-2 and Luke 4:18-19). God's peace be with you all for a joyous, fruitful, fulfilling, and Holy Spirit-filled New Year as we "Convince the Unconvinced to be Convinced" through your generous and ongoing support of State Missions.

To God be the glory and "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" (2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV). Amen.

Rev. Avery can be reached at 704-637-0954 or averyrevkin@aol.com.

PBS Explores African-American Contributions

From Press Release

Throughout the year, PBS invites viewers to explore the vast contributions of African-Americans. In honor and celebration of Black History Month, February 2010, PBS presents new and encore programs, beginning in January and continuing through February.

2010 brings a new primetime series hosted by Tavis Smiley. On January 27, Tavis Smiley Reports accompanies Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on diplo-

Continued on Page 6

"Herskovits at the Heart of Blackness" airs February 2.

2010 Census Message Hits the Road

From Press Release

With the 2010 Census taking place this spring, the message "Be counted!" is hitting the road in a regional road tour that will visit locations across Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. The Charlotte Regional Census Center supports 2010 Census operations in these states. A national census road tour will simultaneously crisscross America, and the national road tour bus will exhibit in Chapel Hill on January 16 during the UNC vs. Georgia Tech basketball game.

The Charlotte event on January 4 will launch a five-state road tour with the theme "Portrait of America," designed to inform people about the importance of the census and urge them to be included in the Portrait of America that the 2010 Census will create by filling out their census questionnaires. The tour features a colorfully wrapped Sprinter van with a 12-foot trailer allowing an onsite, hands-on, and online experience. Tour stops will showcase local talent to tell people about the census and urge participation.

Census questionnaires will be mailed or delivered to about 130 million households across America in mid-March. People are asked to return their completed 10-question census forms in March and April. Census takers, sworn to con-

Continued on Page 5

Big Brothers Big Sisters and African-American Fraternities Develop Plan to Help Black Boys Succeed

From Press Release

Big Brothers Big Sisters and leaders of the network's Black Fraternity Coalition met in Atlanta on December 18 to develop a bold strategy and detailed plan aimed at giving African-American boys every opportunity to succeed. Leaders of the nation's largest donor-supported volunteer mentoring network and their fraternity partners say they will significantly increase the number of African-American Big Brothers, beginning in 2010.

The African-American Mentoring summit, sponsored by the Arby's Foundation, is the second step in Big Brothers Big Sisters' announcement of its unprecedented collaboration with Alpha Phi Alpha, Kappa Alpha Psi, and Omega Psi Phi fraternities aimed at getting more black men engaged in long-term mentoring. Recognizing that children of color, particularly African-American boys, disproportionately represent children waiting to be matched, Big Brothers Big Sisters and its African-American Roundtable (internal and external advisors) have made engaging black men a priority.

Big Brothers Big Sisters, proven to help vulnerable youth beat the odds, matches and supports more children and mentors of color in long-term one-to-one mentoring than any organization in the nation. The donor-supported volunteer network has seen a steady increase in both African-American Littles and Bigs since 2000. Still, with boys waiting to be matched disproportionately representing African-Americans; the national donor-supported volunteer network continues its intentional focus on attracting more black men.

"Alpha Phi Alpha, our first fraternity partner, as well as Kappa Alpha Psi and Omega Psi Phi know our track record—that children in our programs are more likely to improve in school, stay out of trouble, and have positive relationships with their families," said Karen Mathis, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America

Continued on Page 5

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Mr. William B.Thompson
Financial Strategist

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Big Brother: Continued from Page 3

President and Chief Executive Officer. "At the end of the day, we will have a specific strategy for joining forces with the fraternities to support the growing numbers of parents, most of them single mothers, who look to Big Brothers Big Sisters to help their sons succeed."

Even as economic challenges have slowed match growth for many of the mentoring network's agencies, the national nonprofit expects 2009 figures to show a slight increase in African-American male mentors for its community-based programs. The organization attributes the past year's progress in part to President Barack Obama's Call to Service and local efforts by their fraternity partners, particularly Alpha Phi Alpha, which began supporting Big Brothers Big Sisters 18 years ago with recruiting and fundraising activities. Credit also goes to the organization's Campaign for Men, an Arby's Foundation-supported marketing program, and its 2009 Mentoring Brothers efforts, led by syndicated radio personalities.

In the past decade, Big Brothers Big Sisters has been intentional about servicing America's most vulnerable children, those of single, low-income or incarcerated parents, who are disproportionately children of color. From 2000 to 2008, the percentage of African-American Bigs has increased from 8 percent of the total to 16 percent. The percentage of African-American Littles has increased from 22 percent to 36 percent.

Learn how you can change how children grow up in America by going to www.BigBrothersBigSisters.org and www.mentoringbrothers.org.

Palestinian Organization Cautions U.S. Churches Regarding Document

From Press Release

A group of Palestinian Christian leaders issued a document now commonly known as the "Kairos Palestine Document." These leaders describe the document as "a word of faith, hope and love," offered at a time when, according to the drafters, Palestinians have "reached a dead end" because of the Israeli occupation. Ultimately, the document is a call for divestment and economic boycott of Israel.

Rev. Thomas Prinz, pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Leesburg, Virginia and Christians for Fair Witness on the Middle East executive committee member, urges churches to "remember that this document was written entirely by Palestinian Christians. It reflects their narrative and their truth and should be respected as such. But the role of U.S. churches is not simply to adopt the position of one side in a conflict, and then act as their megaphone. Our role is to act as peacemakers. We need to take seriously all the parties' legitimate concerns, and then take a stand informed by the facts and by a broad vision and an inclusive, constructive view."

Msgr. Dennis Mikulanis, Vicar for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs for the Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego and a Fair Witness executive committee member, says "this document too often fails to acknowledge some fundamental truths. I understand that it comes from a place of deep Palestinian suffering. But we will not advance peace by placing all the blame on Israel's shoulders, or by promoting the false idea that boycotting Israel will solve this conflict."

Fair Witness therefore strongly cautions U.S. churches and encourages them to read the Kairos Palestine Document with an open heart but not with an uncritical mind. The organization also encourages churches to seize the current opportunity to act as peacemakers—rather than fan the flames of this conflict by showing contempt for and punishing one side through acts of divestment and boycott.

For analysis of the Kairos Palestine Document, visit www.christianfairwitness.com.

2010 Census Message: Continued from Page 3

fidentiality, will visit households beginning in early May to collect unreturned questionnaires. April 1 is Census Day, the reference date for census information.

"The road tour takes the census message to the people where they live, work and frequent," said David C. Belton, tour producer for the Charlotte Regional Census Center. "We want to tell people how important it is to answer the census. Along the way, we'll have a lot of fun."

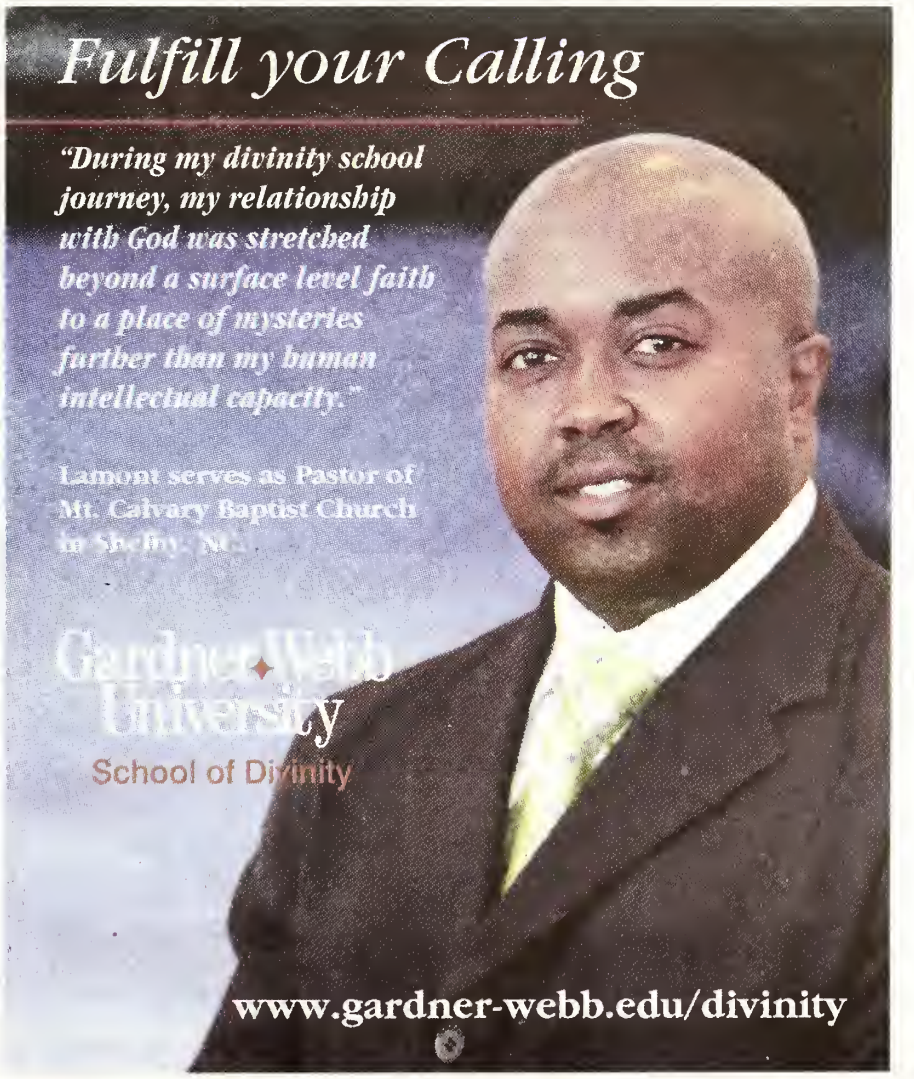
Belton said most tour stops are planned for communities where historically hard to count populations live, visit, or work. These populations include recent immigrants, minorities, college students living off-campus, and rural residents.

The census road tour will make neighborhood "whistle stops" and set up at public events in these North Carolina locations in January: Durham and Raleigh, Jan. 5; Fayetteville, Jan. 6; Franklin, Jan. 23. In February: Pembroke, Feb. 3; Wilmington, Feb. 4; Smithfield and Wendell, Feb. 6; Greensboro, Feb. 9; Hickory and Newton, Feb. 19; Salisbury and Concord, Feb. 24; Charlotte, Feb 25-27. In March: Winston-Salem, March 11; Raleigh, March 12; Asheville and Hendersonville, March 13; Cherokee Reservation, March 24; Greenville and New Bern, March 30. On Census Day, April 1, the road tour returns to Charlotte. Visits follow to Lumberton on April 6 and Elizabeth City on April 10.

Census counts are used to determine the number of congressional seats for each state, the shape of legislative and local government districts, and how more than $400 billion in federal funds is distributed annually to communities across the country.

For information about the 2010 Census, go to www.2010census.gov. All personal information is kept confidential by law.

"By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness..."
(II Corinthians 6:7)



African-American Contributions: Continued from Page 2

matic missions and goes behind the scenes at the State Department. Austin City Limits and American Masters take viewers onstage and backstage with performances and stories of groundbreaking musicians in new episodes, "Mos Def/K'naan" and "Sam Cooke: Crossing Over," respectively.

On February 11, PBS presents In Performance At The White House "A Celebration of Music from the Civil Rights Movement," a concert in the White House East Room. President and Mrs. Obama will host the event in honor of Black History Month. The evening will be taped live on February 10 and air on February 11 at 8 p.m. on PBS stations nationwide (check local listings). The music special will include Jennifer Hudson, John Legend, Seal, Smokey Robinson, and the Blind Boys of Alabama, with a complete talent line-up announced in the coming weeks.

Acclaimed Harvard scholar Dr. Henry Louis Gates Jr. investigates the ancestry of 11 renowned Americans, including poet Elizabeth Alexander, who composed and read the poem at President Barack Obama's inauguration, and writer Malcolm Gladwell, with Faces Of America, a new four-part series.

Independent Lens brings race to the forefront with two new films in February. "Herskovits at the Heart of Blackness" explores the often overlooked legacy of Jewish anthropologist Melville Herskovits, whose ideas in the 1940s and 50s challenged the accepted assumptions about race and culture. "Behind the Rainbow" unearths once-hidden realities of South Africa's political obstacles on the path to democracy.

A third film, "Mine/Home," is the poignant and powerful story of pet owners separated from their animals during Hurricane Katrina, and of the ensuing struggles to bring them home. A meditation on the essential bond between humans and animals, "Mine/Home" is an equally compelling story of race and class and the power of compassion in contemporary America.

Thousands of hours of PBS programming are available on the PBS Video Portal. In mid-January, the Video Portal will release a special collection for Black History Month 2010, featuring new and encore programming, at www.pbs.org/blackhistory.

Tom Joyner Foundation School of the Month: Continued from Page 8

able to stay in school and have the great experience, as I did, from graduating from a HBCU."

This year's schools are: Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL (January); Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville, NC (February); Shaw University, Raleigh, NC (March); Voorhees College, Denmark, SC (April); Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA (May); Philander Smith College, Little Rock, AR (June); Paine College, Augusta, GA (July); North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC (August); Texas Southern University, Houston, TX (September); Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley, GA (October); and University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Pine Bluff, AR (November).

Founded in 1998, the Tom Joyner Foundation has raised more than $55 million to help keep students enrolled in black colleges and has assisted more than 14,000 students and worked with more than 100 HBCUs. Throughout the week, the foundation announces scholarship winners on the nationally syndicated radio show. Each week, separate financial awards are focused on students who are single parents, high achievers, and distinguished male students at the School of the Month. The organization's largest annual fundraiser is its "Fantastic Voyage," which is a seven-day, six-night cruise that raises more than $1 million a year.

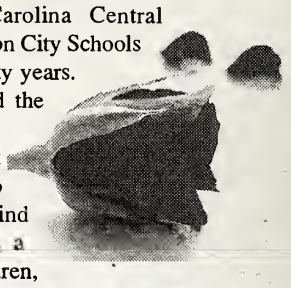
For more details, visit www.blackamericaweb.com.

In Memoriam

The GBSC recognizes the following Baptist family member who passed away in December.

Dr. Georgia M. Turner
Dr. Turner was a former President of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina. Her funeral service was held on December 12 at First Baptist Church in Lumberton. In service: Dr. T. Rodney Murray, Pastor; Bishop Sherwood T. Davis Sr., Officiant; Dr. Haywood T. Gray, Eulogist.

Georgia Anna McNeill Turner was born on January 18, 1928 in Clarkton, North Carolina. At an early age, she gave her life to Christ, was baptized, and joined the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Clarkton. She graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Clarkton, received an undergraduate degree from Shaw University, and a masters degree in education from North Carolina Central University. She retired from the Lumberton City Schools after a teaching career of more than thirty years. For nearly fifty-six years, she supported the ministry of her late husband, the Rev. Dr. E. Burns Turner, as first lady of First Baptist Church. Her survivors include two daughters, Andrea Lesa and Rosalind Arlene, a son-in-law, six grandchildren, a grandson-in-law, two great grandchildren, sisters-in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, and many kind friends as well as a devoted caregiver, Regina McIntyre.



First Baptist Church, Inc.

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Pastoral Vacancy

First Baptist Church is accepting applications for its vacant pastoral position.

Persons interested in applying for this position can send their resumes to the attention of Deacon Alfred Faison
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The deadline for accepting applications is January 29, 2010

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(II Corinthians 6:7)

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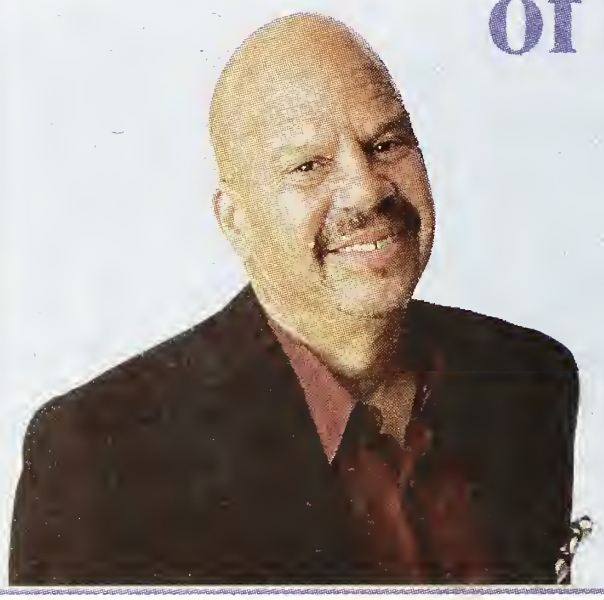
Shaw University Selected as Tom Joyner Foundation School of the Month



From Press Release

The Tom Joyner Foundation, a major driving force in raising money for historically black colleges since 1998, has announced the 11 historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) that it will raise money for in 2010.

The foundation, formed by the nationally syndicated radio personality, unveiled the names of the 2010 schools as part of its on-going effort to broaden and strengthen these institutions' efforts to raise money to help keep students attending HBCUs. As one of the Tom Joyner Foundation Schools of the Month in 2010, each school will be promoted by the Tom Joyner Morning Show and receive those funds raised from listeners, alumni, and other interested parties that month. The nationally syndicated radio show, aired in 115 markets around the country, reaches nearly eight million listeners every week.

"We're excited to announce this year's schools," said Joyner, a graduate of Tuskegee Institute, who is the foundation's chairman and host of the Tom Joyner Morning Show. "All of these schools have wonderful histories and traditions, and we want to make sure their students are

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BAPTIST INFORMER

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Dr. Ralph D. West to Keynote MLK Banquet

The 2010 Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Banquet will be held January 8 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Conference Center in Durham, and features Dr. Ralph Douglas West as the keynote speaker.

Dr. West is the pastor and founder of Brookhollow Baptist Church in Houston, Texas. From its initial membership of 32, the church has grown into a thriving congregation of more than 15,000 families meeting in three locations. Along the way, because of the broad reach of its ministries in the Houston metropolitan area and around the world, Brookhollow Baptist Church affectionately became known as "The Church Without Walls."

Dr. West holds a doctor of ministry degree from Samford University's Beeson Divinity School, a master of divinity degree with biblical languages from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a bachelor's degree in religion and philosophy from Bishop College. He has also completed advanced studies at Cambridge and Oxford universities and received honorary degrees from the Interdenominational Theological Center at Morehouse School of Religion and from Paul Quinn College.

His philosophy of ministry includes a belief that the church and the academy are mutually dependent upon one another. For the academy, the church provides the impetus for its work and directs its course. For the church, the academy illuminates its sacred text, informs its worship, and articulates its faith. Therefore, Dr. West integrates academic interest with pastoral concerns, a juxtaposition clearly reflected in his preaching and writing. His ability to connect the esoteric with the practical makes him a sought after speaker. He is also the author of Finding Fullness Again: What the Book of Ruth Teaches Us About Starting Over and of Left Alone, a powerful book on finding strength for life's mysteries, impossibilities, and uncertainties.

This year's banquet will begin at 7 p.m. The Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Conference Center is located at 4700 Emperor Boulevard in Durham. Tickets may be purchased for $50 each. For more information, call 919-821-7466.

10/30/2010
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